

Serial No. 10/684,628

Dkt.: P-10033.02

Filing Date: October 14, 2003

Title: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR TREATMENT OF ATRIAL TACHYARRHYTHMIAS

REMARKS

Claims 1-5 and 9-20 have been amended without prejudice. Claims 21-26 have been added.

The Office Action stated claims 15 and 19 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 15 and 19 have been amended without prejudice to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The Office Action stated claims 1-14, 16-18 and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Avitall (6,430,426). Claim 1 has been amended without prejudice to include the limitations of an ablation apparatus having a pair of jaw components, each jaw component having an elongated shapeable section, each elongated shapeable section having one or more ablation elements extending along its length for applying ablation energy along the shapeable section, at least one jaw component having a sharpened distal tip. Claims 2-11 depend from amended independent claim 1. Claim 12 has been amended without prejudice to include the limitations of an ablation apparatus having a pair of jaw components, each jaw component having an elongated shapeable section, each elongated shapeable section having one or more ablation elements extending along its length for applying ablation energy along the shapeable section, each shapeable section comprising a member of shapeable material, at least one jaw component having a sharpened distal tip for piercing atrial wall tissue. Claims 13-14, and 16-18 depend from amended independent claim 12. Claim 20 was amended without prejudice to now depend from claim 19.

Support for this amendment is clearly found in the application as originally filed. No new matter is presented.

With respect to the rejections based on the prior art, applicants respectfully disagree that the claims were properly rejected over the prior art. However, applicants believe the enclosed

Serial No. 10/684,628

Dkt.: P-10033.02

Filing Date: October 14, 2003

Title: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR TREATMENT OF ATRIAL TACHYARRHYTHMIAS

amendment renders the issue moot. Applicants reserve the right to seek claims of the scope of the rejected claims in a continuing application and are filing this amendment in an effort to expedite prosecution.

Examination and reconsideration of the application as amended is requested. After amending claims and adding claims as set forth above, claims 1-26 are pending in the application and are believed to be in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

A request for a three (3) month extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136(a) has been filed with this amendment. Please charge to Deposit Account No. 13-2546 the fee of \$1020.00 which is required for the three-month extension of time.

If the Examiner comes to believe that a telephone conversation may be useful in addressing any remaining open issues in this case, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned agent at 763-391-9867.

Please charge any required fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2546.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: March 8, 2007

By 

James R. Keogh

Reg. No. 44,824

MEDTRONIC, INC.

710 Medtronic Parkway

Minneapolis, MN 55432

Tel. 763.391.9867

Fax. 763.391.9668

Customer No. 27581